

increased greater than before, and actually increased greater than Anglo voters. There has been no disenfranchisement in Georgia.

So, actually, it turns out that the photo ID has engaged minority voters. The fact is the Voting Rights Amendment is a violation of our United States Constitution until it is applied, section 5 is applied, to every State in the Union.

There were southern States that were guilty of racial suppression in the sixties and prior, and it is an abomination to this Nation that such occurred, not nearly as much as slavery, but it's still an abomination. It still should not have been happening. The Voting Rights Act has done a great deal toward eliminating that.

But, unfortunately, under the Voting Rights Act, atypical of most things in America, once you improve your State to the place where there is no problem, you still are not out from under punishment, the penalty of section 5, because of what happened in the 1960s and before.

So, States have complained, look, you know, we fix things. We're doing good. In fact, we are doing better than so many districts in other parts of the country that are not under section 5 that's so punitive.

Some of us couldn't help but wonder, when a big majority on both sides of the aisle voted to extend the Voting Rights Act, including section 5 that got even tougher for another 25 years, why they wouldn't have supported the Gohmert amendment. The Gohmert amendment said, look, section 5, punitive provisions ought to apply to every district, every State in the country. Failure to do so is a violation of equal protection.

Why is it that districts in other parts of the country, north, east, west, are allowed to grow into racial disparity and suppression of minority vote but they're not treated with section 5, whereas States that have been under that punitive provision can't ever get out from under it even though they are better off than other parts of the country?

Well, the reason, it seems to be—you wonder, why would people vote? Why not vote to do it across the country? If it's good for these States that have proved better than our own State, why should it not apply to everyone? And I still ask that question. The only thing you wonder is we had the power to ram this down on these States punitively, so we did. The last thing we wanted was any of those punitive provisions applying to our States or our districts where disparity is more a problem than those original areas.

So, I don't know. I wonder if at some point we're going to have a rush of the bipartisan leadership that pushed that through to come back and say, You know what, LOUIE, you're right. If it applies to southern States, it ought to apply to everybody. It ought to apply to those districts that have more of a

racial problem than there has been or exists now in those States that are treated punitively.

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Well, we'll see.

We've also heard about the loving relationship, as this administration says, with such a great ally as Israel. And it defies explanation. This is from Breitbart, William Bigelow, dated 10 July 2012:

How much does Barack Obama hate Israel and want to throw her under the bus? Here's how much: the Obama administration not only excluded Israel from a new counterterrorism forum in Spain; it didn't even mention Israel in its remarks. If there were ever a country that has dealt with murderous terrorist attacks over and over again, that country would have to be Israel.

Here's what Marie Otero, the State Department's Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights, said:

"Last September at the official launch of the Global Counterterrorism Forum, I had the privilege to introduce the premiere of a film 'Hear Their Voices,' which tells the stories of 11 survivors of terrorist attacks from Pakistan, Jordan, Northern Ireland, Uganda, Turkey, Indonesia, India, Spain, Colombia, and the United States. The film, which was produced by the Global Survivors Network, is a powerful plea for audiences around the world, especially those sympathetic to the grievances expressed by extremists, to recognize the human cost of terrorism, and I am delighted that our Spanish hosts are planning on showing this film here later this afternoon."

When Secretary of State Clinton announced the coalition's formation in June, she didn't include Israel on her list of countries that suffer from terrorist attacks.

How could Secretary Clinton not immediately think of Israel as a country that suffers from terrorist attacks when they have bombs, they have rockets flying into Israel every day?

Defenders of Israel were furious, even those who were Democrats. Josh Block, a Democratic strategist and a former spokesman for AIPAC, said, "When the administration promised to include Israel in the counterterrorism forum that the United States founded—after Jerusalem's inexplicable exclusion from the initial meeting a month ago—one would think that they would be true to their word. Clearly, someone failed here. How Israel could be excluded from another meeting of an anti-terror forum that we in the United States chair is beyond comprehension, especially one that focuses on victims of terrorism. At a time when Romney is challenging the administration's record on U.S.-Israel relations, this error stands out."

First of all, Mr. Block, no one failed here. Obama succeeded beyond his wildest dreams.

Later in the article:

Jonathan Schanzer, vice president for research at the Foundation of Defense of Democracies, said, "What we're seeing is a trend of Israel being left out of the global discussion on terrorism, while Israel was extremely helpful during the beginning stages of this conversation. The Obama administration is downplaying the struggle that Israel has been enduring. I believe to a certain extent this is due to regional politics, and it's disconcerting to see this change. It just looks like a quiet effort to downplay the issue."

The State Department would not answer questions about the matter.

Pretty tragic how this State Department, how this administration could continue to exclude Israel from counterterrorism discussions about countries who have been victims of terrorism.

Here is an interesting additional article. We had another hearing today in one of our Judiciary Committees. It caused us to think again about Fast and Furious, never far from your mind when you know there are guns out there still being used to kill innocent people that were put there, forced there, by this administration. This article, dated July 6 from Deroy Murdock, National Review Online—and I'm not going to read the whole article, but a significant part is important to note.

Mr. Murdock writes:

While Brian Terry is the most visible victim of this notorious policy, he is not its sole casualty.

On February 15, 2011, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Jaime Zapata, 32, was shot mortally in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Members of Los Zetas drug gang also hit ICE agent Victor Avila in that ambush, although not fatally. This assault involved a rifle purchased in Dallas in another Obama administration "gunwalking" escapade.

Largely overlooked is this plan's calamitous impact on Mexico, its people, and U.S.-Mexican relations. Fast and Furious has spilled American blood. But south of the border, it has made blood gush like an oil strike.

"One of the things that's so offensive about this case is that our Federal Government knowingly, willfully, purposefully, gave the drug cartels nearly 2,000 weapons—mainly AK-47s—and allowed them to walk," Representative JASON CHAFFETZ told NBC News. These arms were supplied to lead Federal agents in Phoenix to the Mexican thugs who acquired them. Instead, Fast and Furious guns melted into Mexico without a trace.

And I add, parenthetically, because they were never intended to be followed. And that was clear.

Back to the article:

These weapons became invisible, but not silent.

The 300 Mexicans or so that have died as a result of this also deserve attention and what it's done to our American-Mexican relations needs great sympathy and heartfelt apologies.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 2061. An act to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 12, 2012, at 9 a.m.